

### **REMARKS**

The most recent Office Action mailed February 20, 2008 ("*Office Action*") considered claims 1, 27-45, and 47-57, of which claims 1, 27, 41, and 47-57 are independent.

The *Office Action* rejected claims 37, and 52-54 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 2 as being indefinite. The *Office Action* also rejected claims 1, 27, 32, 34, 36, 38, 41, 49, and 51 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2006/0042339 to Denkmeier ("*Denkmeier*"). In addition, the *Office Action* also rejected claims 55-57 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Denkmeier* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,812,593 to Fisher, et al. ("*Fisher*").

In contrast, the *Office Action* allowed claims 47, 48, and 50, and further objected to claims 28-31, 33, 35, 39, 40, and 42-45 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise indicating that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Accordingly, Applicants herewith cancel claims 1, 28, 42, and 55-57 without prejudice. In addition, Applicants herewith amend claims 27, 29, 37, 43-44, 49, and 51-54, as described more fully below.

Specifically, Applicants herewith amend claim 27 to include the limitations of claim 28, and further amend claim 41 to include the limitations of claim 42. Accordingly, Applicants further amend dependent claims 28, 43, and 44 to correct dependency issues necessitated by the amendments to claims 27 and 41, and cancellations of claims 28 and 42.

In addition, Applicants herewith amend claim 49 to now include the limitations of independent claim 27 and the allowable subject matter of claims 28-29. Applicants also herewith amend claim 51 to now include the limitations of independent claim 27 and the allowable subject matter of claim 33. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that independent

claims 27, 49, and 51 are now allowable over the art of record since each incorporates allowable dependent claim subject matter incorporated with its underlying independent claim and any intervening claim(s).

In addition to the foregoing, Applicants also herewith amend claims 37 and 52 to correct issues pointed out by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 2. Support for these amendments can be found throughout Applicants' specification, and in particular in ¶ 23 (as well as original claim 11) in the as-filed Application. These amendments should clarify the issues pointed out regarding the phrase "relative to one another," since the starting points and references surfaces are limited to "a plurality" thereof. Similarly, Applicants have corrected the antecedent basis issues noted with respect to previously presented claims 53 and 54, by amending claims 53 and 54 to include combinations of claim 27 with claims 38-39, or claims 38-40, respectively. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that claims 53-54 now overcome the § 112 rejections of record, and further that claims 53-54 are both allowable over the art of record.

As a final matter, Applicants herewith add new claims 58-60, which combine the limitations of independent claim 41 with the subject matter of allowable dependent claims 43, 44, or 45, respectively. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that claims 58-60 are also allowable over the art of record.

As such, claims 29-41, 43-45, 47-54, and 50-60 are now pending, all of which Applicants respectfully submit are in condition for prompt allowance as incorporating or otherwise depending from allowable subject matter.

In the event that the Examiner finds impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

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